STAR WARS
OBI-WAN & ANAKIN
MARVEL
003
SOULE
CHECCHETTO
MOSSA

OBI-WAN AND ANAKIN

Part III

Young Anakin Skywalker is having doubts about his path. Having joined the peacekeeping Jedi Order as a boy, he now begins to question his role in the galaxy.

Anakin has accompanied his master, Jedi Knight Obi-Wan Kenobi, on a mission to Carnelion IV in response to a call for Jedi assistance. Crash-landing, they discover the ruins of an advanced civilization, abandoned beneath a sickly cloud cover with primitive survivors living on mountain peaks above.

A battle between two airships ensues with one plummeting towards the surface. Obi-Wan manages to save a pair of women from the downed ship and a man, Grecker, from the other. With their survival at stake, the war between the survivors is put aside in order to rebuild a ship and retreat to safety....

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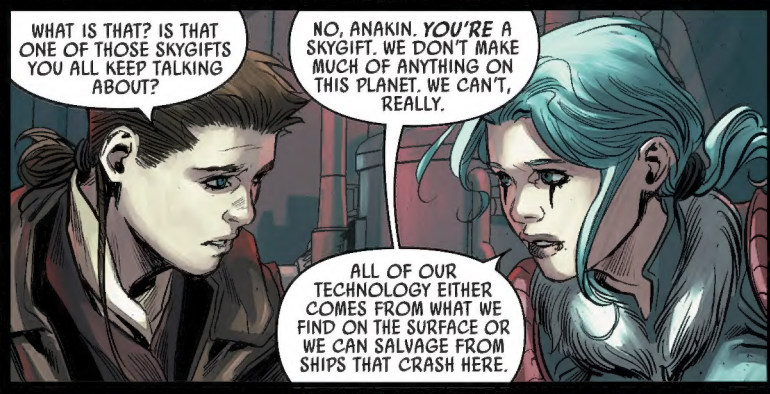
Carnelion IV.
Above the Celadon Sea.
YOU SAID YOU CAUGHT A DISTRESS SIGNAL, EH? WHERE'D IT COME FROM?
DON'T CONCERN YOURSELF, GRECKER--WE'RE HEADED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. BUT IF YOU NEED TO DROP US SOMEWHERE BEFORE WE REACH OUR DESTINATION, ANAKIN AND I CAN MAKE OUR WAY.
YOU'VE ALREADY DONE US A GREAT FAVOR BY BRINGING US THIS FAR.
NO. WE'LL GET YOU THERE. THIS PLANET'S BARELY SAFE FOR US...MUCH LESS OFF-WORLDERS.
I APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH, MOTHER PRAN. AND I MUST ADMIT--I'M PLEASED TO SEE YOU TWO SO UNIFIED IN PURPOSE.
NOT SO LONG AGO YOU WERE AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS.
OPEN AND CLOSED CAN WORK TOGETHER. IF THERE IS NO OTHER CH--
DAMMIT.
GRECKER. LOOK.
YEAH.

STAY BACK THERE, KOLARA. IT'S NOT SAFE.
YES, MOTHER PRAN.


WHAT IS THAT? IS THAT ONE OF THOSE SKYGIFTS YOU ALL KEEP TALKING ABOUT?
NO, ANAKIN. *YOU'RE* A SKYGIFT. WE DON'T MAKE MUCH OF ANYTHING ON THIS PLANET. WE CAN'T, REALLY.
ALL OF OUR TECHNOLOGY EITHER COMES FROM WHAT WE FIND ON THE SURFACE OR WE CAN SALVAGE FROM SHIPS THAT CRASH HERE.

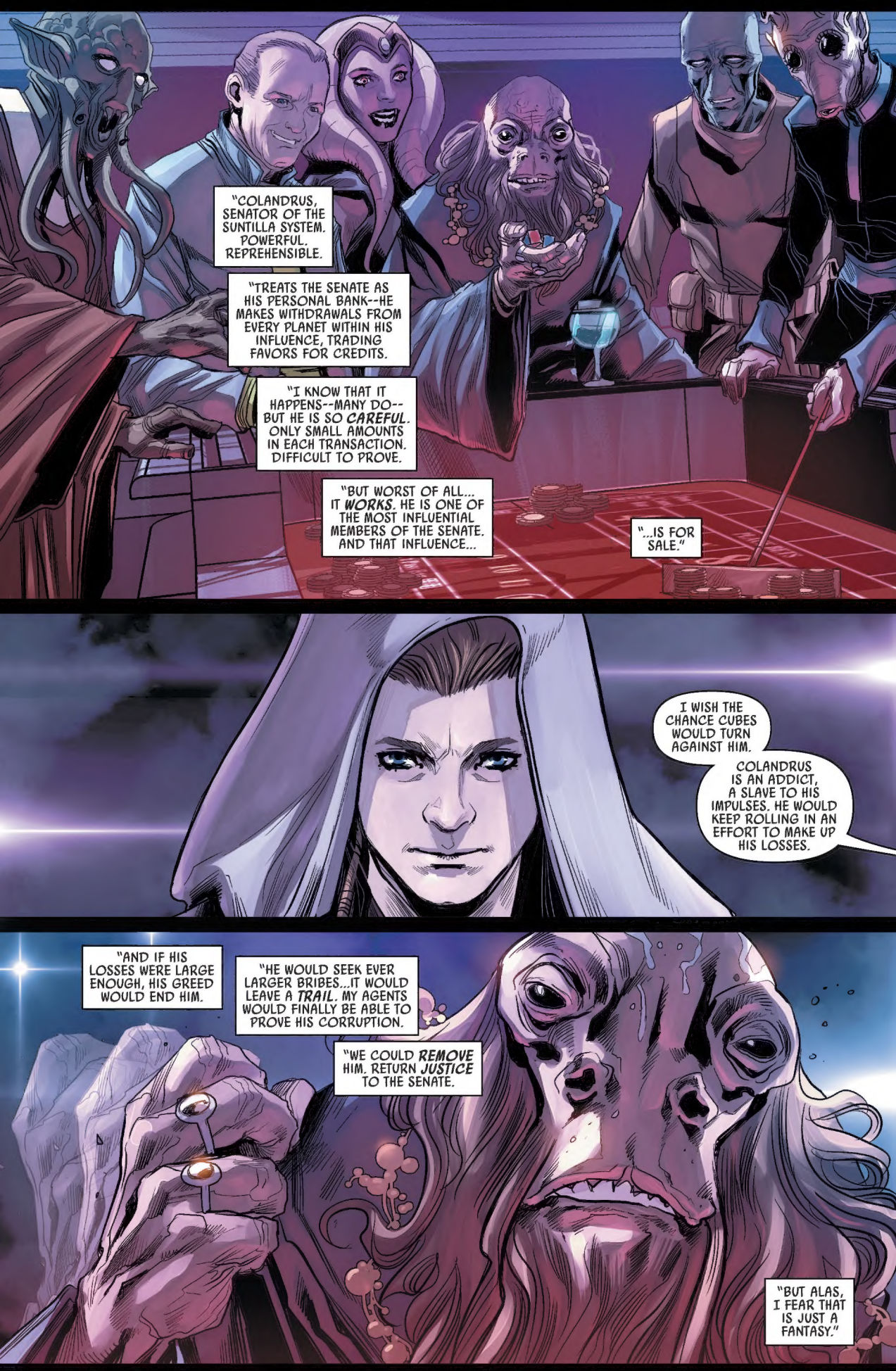
WE CALL THOSE SKYGIFTS.
LIKE YOU.

GOT IT.
WHAT IS THAT? IF IT'S DANGEROUS, SHOULD YOU HAVE BROUGHT IT ABOARD?
HNH.
THERE'S MORE THAN ONE KIND OF DANGER.
KRNCH

WHAT WAS THAT? WHY WERE THEY SO WORRIED ABOUT IT?
I'LL SHOW YOU.
PROBABLY SOMETHING...
...LIKE *THIS*.
BUT THAT'S... THAT'S *BEAUTIFUL*. WHY CAN'T YOU HAVE IT?
BECAUSE THEY SAY I CAN'T.
HNH.

Club Kasakar.
Coruscant.
Before.
KEEP YOUR HOOD UP, ANAKIN. IT WOULD NOT DO FOR EITHER OF US TO BE RECOGNIZED IN THIS PLACE.
OF COURSE, CHANCELL--
I MEAN, OF COURSE, SIR.
THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO ACCOMPANY ME TODAY, ANAKIN. I KNOW YOUR JEDI TRAINING KEEPS YOU VERY BUSY.
I MUST SAY, IN SOME WAYS I ENVY YOU PADAWANS. TRAINING IN THE TEMPLE AS YOU DO--YOUR ENTIRE LIFE DECIDED FOREVER AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE.
IT MUST SIMPLIFY THINGS. YOU HAVE NO TROUBLING CHOICES TO MAKE. NOT LIKE ME--MY ENTIRE LIFE IS DIFFICULT DECISIONS!
YES. IT'S THE BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO ME.

JUST LOOK AT THIS PLACE.
ANYTHING CAN BE PROCURED HERE. ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING.
LIVES ARE BOUGHT AND SOLD IN THIS CLUB EVERY SINGLE DAY. IT'S REVOLTING.
OH, I AM SO SORRY. I SHOULD NEVER HAVE MENTIONED...THAT IS TO SAY, I KNOW WHERE YOU COME FROM, ANAKIN, AND I HOPE I DID NOT RAISE OLD WOUNDS BY MENTIONING SLAVERY.
IT'S...IT'S FINE, CHANCELLOR. I DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT THAT MUCH ANYMORE.
NOW, YOU AND I BOTH KNOW THAT ISN'T TRUE.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. IF THIS PLACE IS SO AWFUL, WHY DOESN'T THE SENATE DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?
THE BUREAUCRATS? PLEASE, MY YOUNG FRIEND.
THIS PLACE IS FULL OF SENATORS.


"COLANDRUS, SENATOR OF THE SUNTILLA SYSTEM. POWERFUL. REPREHENSIBLE.
"TREATS THE SENATE AS HIS PERSONAL BANK--HE MAKES WITHDRAWALS FROM EVERY PLANET WITHIN HIS INFLUENCE, TRADING FAVORS FOR CREDITS.
"I KNOW THAT IT HAPPENS--MANY DO--BUT HE IS SO CAREFUL. ONLY SMALL AMOUNTS IN EACH TRANSACTION. DIFFICULT TO PROVE.
"BUT WORST OF ALL... IT WORKS. HE IS ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS OF THE SENATE. AND THAT INFLUENCE...
"...IS FOR SALE."
I WISH THE CHANCE CUBES WOULD TURN AGAINST HIM.
COLANDRUS IS AN ADDICT, A SLAVE TO HIS IMPULSES. HE WOULD KEEP ROLLING IN AN EFFORT TO MAKE UP HIS LOSSES.
"AND IF HIS LOSSES WERE LARGE ENOUGH, HIS GREED WOULD END HIM.
"HE WOULD SEEK EVER LARGER BRIBES...IT WOULD LEAVE A TRAIL. MY AGENTS WOULD FINALLY BE ABLE TO PROVE HIS CORRUPTION.
"WE COULD REMOVE HIM. RETURN JUSTICE TO THE SENATE.
"BUT ALAS, I FEAR THAT IS JUST A FANTASY."

COME ON, NOW--SHOW ME SOMETHING!
I'M SORRY, SENATOR...THIS JUST WASN'T YOUR ROLL.
NO...
AHAHAHAHAHA HAHAHAHA!

WHAT, EXACTLY, DO YOU THINK IS SO FUNNY?
THE SENATOR JUST ASKED YOU A QUESTION.
NO, ANAKIN. NOT HERE.
MY SON TOLD ME A JOKE. I LAUGHED. NOTHING MORE.
NOW, IF YOU WILL RELEASE ME, WE ARE DONE HERE. ACTUALLY, WE WERE JUST ABOUT TO LEAVE.
SEE THAT YOU DO.

MAY I ASK YOU A QUESTION, ANAKIN?
OF COURSE, CHANCELLOR. ANYTHING.
YOUR JEDI ABILITIES ALLOW YOU TO MOVE OBJECTS THROUGH THE FORCE, DO THEY NOT?
YES. ACTUALLY, I'M VERY GOOD AT IT. BETTER THAN ANY OF THE OTHER PADAWANS MY AGE... AND MOST OF THE OLDER ONES, TOO.
COULD THESE ABILITIES BE USED TO MOVE, PERHAPS... A CHANCE CUBE?

Now.
THE BOY. HE YOUR SON?
NO. HE IS MY PADAWAN. SOMETHING BETWEEN A STUDENT AND AN APPRENTICE.
HE'S A *STUDENT?* SURE HANDLED US EASILY ENOUGH, DOWN ON THAT MOUNTAIN. NOT TO MENTION THE CORPSE-LEECHES. TOUGH KID.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
JUST MAKING AN ADJUSTMENT. MY LIGHTSABER FELT A LITTLE OFF LAST TIME I USED IT. I'M PROBABLY THE ONLY ONE WHO'D EVER NOTICE.
OR MAYBE YOU JUST LIKE FIXING THINGS?
... MAYBE.
IS THAT WHAT YOU TWO DO? GO TO DIFFERENT PLACES AND FIX THINGS?
SORT OF. THE JEDI ARE POWERFUL, BUT THERE AREN'T THAT MANY OF THEM, AND THE GALAXY IS A BIG PLACE.
SOMETIMES THEY CAN'T HELP EVERYWHERE THEY SHOULD.
CAN'T, OR WON'T?
HOW'D YOU GET TO BE HIS TEACHER?
MY OWN MASTER ASKED ME TO TRAIN HIM. HE WAS DYING. I COULD NOT REFUSE.

ANAKIN IS... IMPORTANT. HE HAS EXTRAORDINARY POTENTIAL, BOTH WITH RESPECT TO HIS OWN ABILITIES AND IN HIS ABILITY TO AFFECT THE BALANCE OF GOOD AND EVIL IN THE UNIVERSE.
HE REQUIRES GUIDANCE. I SWORE TO PROVIDE IT.
YOU DON'T SOUND ALL THAT HAPPY ABOUT IT.
THERE. THAT SHOULD DO IT.
YOU KNOW, ANAKIN, IF YOU LIKE FIXING STUFF... THIS PLANET IS *FULL* OF BROKEN THINGS.
YEAH? LIKE WHAT?
I HAVE NO ISSUES WITH ANAKIN. HE IS ASKING QUESTIONS, AS HE SHOULD BE AT HIS AGE.
MOTHER PRAN. CAN YOU COME HERE? I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING.
I AM JUST UNCERTAIN THAT I HAVE THE ANSWERS HE NEEDS. IF THERE IS A PROBLEM, IT IS WITH *ME*. THE FAILURE IS MINE.
HE DOESN'T THINK SO. KID IDOLIZES YOU. YOU CAN SEE IT.

WHAT IS IT, KOLARA?
ANAKIN KNOWS HOW TO FIX THINGS. MACHINES. OLD-TIME MACHINES. I THOUGHT, MAYBE...
AH... DOES HE NOW?
ANAKIN MAY RESPECT ME, BUT HE IS LESS SURE ABOUT THE ORDER TO WHICH WE BELONG.
JEDI.
YES. WE HAVE GREAT POWER, BUT WE SPEND A GREAT DEAL OF TIME TEACHING OUR PEOPLE HOW TO USE THAT POWER WISELY. IT REQUIRES PATIENCE.
ANAKIN FINDS PATIENCE DIFFICULT, ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE. HE HATES TO WAIT. FOR ANYTHING. HE HAS DECIDED HE WILL BE BETTER OFF WALKING HIS OWN PATH.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS?
LOOKS LIKE PRETTY OLD TECH, BUT IT'S LIKE A CENTRAL PROCESSOR FOR A DROID OR MECH. LIKE ITS BRAIN. BROKEN, THOUGH.
I KNOW. CAN YOU FIX IT?
MAYBE. I'LL TRY.
YOU GONNA LET HIM GO? WHAT WOULD HE DO?
PEOPLE GENERALLY DO NOT LEAVE THE ORDER. I AM ATTEMPTING TO CONVINCE ANAKIN TO CHANGE HIS MIND.
IF I FAIL HIM, THINGS WILL BECOME...
...COMPLICATED.

ALMOST...
...GOT IT.
I HAVE MORE. IF YOU CAN FIX THESE TOO, YOU'D BE...WELL, YOU'D BE OUR SAVIOR. YOU COULD PUT THIS ENTIRE PLANET BACK ON THE RIGHT PATH.
WILL YOU DO IT?
OF COURSE. IT'S NO PROBLEM AT ALL. I'M HAPPY TO HELP.
ANAKIN... THIS COULD CHANGE EVERYTHING.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
KOLARA, THANK YOU. HE'S THE KEY. YOU WERE BRILLIANT TO RECOGNIZE IT.
I KNOW... BUT THIS NEXT PART... DO I HAVE TO? HE SEEMS SO NICE. HE JUST WANTS TO HELP US.
THERE IS NO CHOICE. YOU KNOW WHAT'S AT STAKE HERE.
WATCH FOR OUR MOMENT-- IF AN OPPORTUNITY ARISES, YOU'LL NEED TO MOVE QUICKLY.
I...ALL RIGHT, MOTHER PRAN.

CHNK!

WHAT?

OH NO. THIS IS *BAD.*

WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WE'RE UNDER ATTACK. THEY'LL BE UP HERE ANY SECOND.

WHO WILL BE UP HERE?

"FISHERS."

THIS IS IT. THIS IS THE MOMENT.

GO, KOLARA.

ANAKIN! DON'T LET THEM HURT ME!

I WON'T. I PROMISE. DON'T BE AFRAID.

WE HAVE TO GET *AWAY.* IF THEY HOLD US HERE, MORE WILL JUST KEEP COMING UP UNTIL THEY SWARM US.

UNDERSTOOD.

ANAKIN! WE NEED TO FREE THE SHIP. CUT THE LINES!

I'LL DO IT, MASTER.

JUST STAY AWAY FROM THE WINDOWS, KOLARA. OBI-WAN AND I WILL--
WHAT? MY LIGHTSABER...
WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I'M SORRY, ANAKIN.
NO!

I'M SORRY TOO, CHILD, FOR WHAT THAT'S WORTH.
THNK!
ANAKIN! WHERE ARE YOU?
QUICKLY, KOLARA! WE HAVE TO GO.
NO!

KRRCK!
NOW!
KCHK!
SSNP!
MOTHER PRAN, NO! YOU DON'T HAVE TO--
YES. I DO.

KRRROOM!
To be continued!

OBI-WAN & ANAKIN

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away is a lot easier to get to than you think – and we want to hear from you! Write us at StarWars@Marvel.com if you want to make it onto a future letters page. Don't forget to mark the letter "OK TO PRINT."

Why, hello there, fellow Padawans! You're in luck this month – the Master of the Force, Obi-Wan & Anakin writer Charles Soule himself, has joined us to answer YOUR letters! Here's what you guys had to say on the story so far....

Hello fantastic Marvel *Star Wars* team!

I thoroughly enjoyed the first issue of *Obi-Wan & Anakin*. As I was reading, I noticed on the opening page a curious quote: "For a thousand years the mystic Jedi Order has served as peacekeeper of the Republic..."

Wasn't the last time that there was a great war in the galaxy at the hands of Darth Bane a thousand years before Obi-Wan & Anakin? Is there anything with Darth Bane in the works at the studio or creative office? One of the greatest Sith Lords of all time surely deserves his own comic series. Please let us know if we shall see Darth Bane soon.

May the Force be with you,
Davis R.

Ah, yes, the dastardly Darth Bane, creator of the Rule of Two for the Sith Order. If it were up to me, I would write a hundred issues about the Sith-Jedi wars from the distant past. Unfortunately, and despite my insistent phone calls, emails, texts, time spent picketing the Marvel offices, and repeated applications of the Jedi mind trick, for some reason it is still not yet up to me. Perhaps once I have completed my training.

Hi! I just read the first issue and I think it was bloody amazing!! You did a great job! Now, I was wondering if you by any chance would have "the business on Cato Neimoidia" in future issues.

Jacob

I love those little mentions that give depth to the relationship between Obi-Wan and Anakin – things like that pesky nest of gundarks. For the moment, we're focusing on telling a new adventure in this comic, but we will fill in a few blanks about the history of a master and Padawan...and we might not even be referring to Obi-Wan there, as you'll have already seen if you're reading this issue!

Hi Team,

Just read *Obi-Wan & Anakin #1*. I was eager to pick it up because I enjoyed the prequels – especially Ewan McGregor as Obi-Wan and Hayden Christensen as Anakin.

I enjoyed it, especially the art. Wasn't crazy about the line where Anakin says something about leaving the Jedi Order, as I believe Anakin's arrogance would make him want to be the BEST Jedi, certainly not a quitter. But we'll see how it goes before I judge it. All I ask is since this takes place in the prequel era... PLEASE NO GUNGANS!!

-Josh K.
New Brunswick, Canada

Man, if you didn't like that one line, you are going to HATE issues 4 and 5. It's all Gungans. Anakin and Obi-Wan are revealed to have been secret Gungans the whole time. Mace Windu, too. All the Gonk Droids. The Sarlacc. Starkiller Base. Captain Tarpals is actually Darth Bane. It's a Gungan party, and we're all invited. It's the Gungans' world, and we're all just living in it. GUNGANS!

Hi Team! I've just finished the first issue of *Obi-Wan & Anakin*, and I thought it was terrific! I thought the artwork was great. I love frozen planets due to all the shades of blue. Is this going to be an ongoing series? Story-wise, I'm looking forward to reading about Anakin's training, and about what Obi-Wan may or may not have done right. The first student is always an experiment, and Anakin might not exactly be the Padawan Obi-Wan would have chosen, if it had not been his master's dying wish. I also can't wait to read more about the Anakin/Palpatine relationship. I loved how Palpatine politely enforced his authority over Mace Windu. If I were Mace I'd be a tad suspicious that the Chancellor was so insistent on his request. Also, props to including the Duros Padawan. I think that was the first Duros Jedi I've ever seen.

Until next issue,
Matt in Ohio

This will be a five-issue mini, but I have a ton of stories I'd love to tell about these guys, so who knows? As the man himself says: "Always in motion, the future is." Glad you're enjoying the dynamic between Obi-Wan and Anakin – the exploration of their relationship was one of the things I was most excited to write when I was working on the series.

To Charles Soule and the creative team,

I have to say, this was a stellar debut issue. The artwork is beautiful to look at; I love it simply for that Obi-Wan/Anakin robed pose near the end alone, but it captures the emotions of the characters very well. The temple scene was rightly intense, with Palpatine's innocent yet secretly sinister presence being a standout. The story is interesting so far, I am intrigued to see where it leads, and I love that you're using the 'What is a Jedi' angle. Can't wait to see what's next! I shall watch this series with great interest.

Andrew Edwards,
Bournemouth, U.K.

Well, not much to say here other than thank you! Marco Checchetto is doing an unbelievable job with the art on this series, and there's still a lot of great stuff to come. I am really lucky to work with him, and I hope we can do something else together in the future.

Dear *Obi-Wan & Anakin* Team,

I have been reading the new Marvel *Star Wars* comics since they first debuted one year ago, and I have to say, this is one of the best. The art was so stunning and detailed that I went back through the book three times just to analyze every panel. And the writing brought me into the story in a way that very few comics do. Anakin's emotional struggles are a big part of his character, so to see his youthful innocence perfectly harmonized with his unstable anger was really engaging and exciting. Huge thanks to the writer, artist, editor, publisher, and everyone else involved in this truly wonderful comic. I can't wait for the next issue!

Tyler Bruso
Bournemouth, U.K.

Me neither, and thank you for the kind words! That Anakin, eh? He's a real pistol, tell you what.

"Do or do not, there is no try."
–Charles Soule